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Docket No.: INTERLINK 3.0-003
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of: :
Everett et al :
Application No.: 09/431,546 : Group Art Unit: 1635
Filed: October 29, 1999 : Examiner: S. McGarry
For: PEPTIDES WITH ENHANCED STABILITY :
TO PROTEASE DEGRADATION :
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the official action mailed January 13, 2003, applicant submits the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for reducing the extent of protease degradation of a protein applied to or produced by a plant comprising administering to the plant or a part thereof a peptide comprising indolicidin, Arg-Arg-Trp-Pro-Trp-Pro-Trp-Lys-Trp-Pro-Leu-Ile (SEQ ID NO:4) (Rev4), or a functional equivalent of indolicidin or Rev4, wherein said functional equivalent possesses protease inhibitory activity comprising ability to increase resistance of the protein to degradation or inactivation by proteases.

3. AMENDED The method of claim 1 wherein said peptide comprises a functional equivalent of Rev4 which is Ser-Arg-Arg-